CHIHAYA-CHAN AND MATSUGE-KUN...

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Poem 105

WHICH ONE OF THEM WILL ACHIEVE RESULTS?

BUT FOR MENTORS AND THEIR STUDENTS ALIKE...

...THAT APPROACH FEELS VERY FORCED AND PAINFUL.

...

...THERE IS AN OPINION...

...THAT WORKING HARD AND TRYING YOUR BEST IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN SHOWING RESULTS.

RESULTS ...

WORDS LIKE THAT BLOW PAST YOU AND DIE OUT LIKE A WIND.

'I DID MY BEST', 'THE FIGHT WAS CLOSE'...

THE STONE YOU CAN REACH BY DOING YOUR BEST.

ONLY RESULTS ARE SET IN STONE.

AND THEN...

TO THINK THAT THERE WERE YOUNG PLAYERS LIKE THESE TWO IN THE SHIRANAMI SOCIETY...

I HEARD BOTH OF THEM ARE ON THE TEAM WINNER OF THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM NATIONALS.

THAT'S PRETTY GREAT, ISN'T IT?

I HAD NO IDEA...

AYASE CHIHAYA AND MASHIMA TAICHI, WAS IT?

NEITHER OF THEM HAS TOURNAMENT WINS YET?

I WONDER IF THEY'RE GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEIJIN AND QUEEN QUALIFIER?

I BET THEY WILL.

WHICH ONE OF THEM IS GOING TO BE THE FIRST TO ACHIEVE A TOURNAMENT WIN?

THE WINNER OF THE YOSHINO SOCIETY TOURNAMENT WILL GAIN MOMENTUM.

AND THEN...

....THE RESULTS

CALL FORTH ...

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...A STRONG...

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...TAILWIND.

IT'S LIKE A TEAM COMPETITION, DON'T YOU AGREE?

TSUBOGUCHI FORFEITS.

IT SURE IS NICE TO HAVE SENPAIS, ISN'T IT.

JUST YOU WATCH!

...SO THAT ONE OF MY COMRADES COULD WIN AGAINST HIM LATER ON.

TASUKI!

HARADA-SENSEI IS DRAINING MY OPPONENT'S STRENGHT.

IT IS AS IF IT SUPPORTS YOU.

ALL OF YOUR MATCHES TODAY IN THAT KIMONO, WEREN'T YOU?

YOU WERE GOING TO WIN

THIS IS YOUR TIME TO SHOW THEM ALL YOUR REAL ABILITY.

EVERYONE SUPPORTED ME...

...AND PUSHED ME IN THE BACK, LETTING ME COME THIS FAR.

THANK YOU FOR THE GAME!

THE WINNER OF THE YOSHINO SOCIETY TOURNAMENT IN CLASS A IS—

...AYASE CHIHAYA-SAN,

AFFILIATED WITH THE SHIRANAMI SOCIETY.

SHE'S JUST BECOME THE EASTERN QUEEN QUALIFIER'S FAVORITE!
SHE'S IN HER SECOND YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL? THAT MAKES HER THE SAME AGE AS THE REIGNING QUEEN!
LOOK, LOOK, SHE'S A REAL BEAUTY, TOO!
SHE TOOK DOWN THE VICE-MEIJIN, TAKEMURA, AND A FORMER QUEEN, INOKUMA, ON HER WAY TO THE FINAL.
OH, SHE MUST BE QUITE CAPABLE, THEN.
TO THINK THAT THERE WAS A PLAYER LIKE HER!
SHE'S HARADA-SAN'S PRIZED PUPIL.
バターン!
AH!
CHIHAYA-CHAN!
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OH, YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME.

THE SHIRANAMI SOCIETY DID SIMPLY AMAZING THIS TIME!

AND YOU REALLY DID MANAGE TO RACK UP A MOUNTAIN OF POINTS!

WE HOPE TO DO JUST AS GREAT IN THE MEIJIN AND QUEEN QUALIFIER.

NOT TO MENTION, THAT GIRL IS SUCH A BEAUTY, TOO!

I'M SO EXCITED AT THE PROSPECT TO SEE HER PLAY AGAINST QUEEN WAKAMIYA IN THE TITLE MATCHES!

AH, YES! IT WILL LOOK SO PRETTY BROADCASTED ON TV!

THANKS GOODNESS!

PEOPLE UNFAMILIAR WITH CHIHAYA-CHAN SEE HER AS YOUR CLASSICAL BEAUTY.

I WONDER WHO ELSE WILL TAKE PART IN THE QUALIFIER IN TWO WEEKS?

THE STRONG CONTENDERS ARE OBVIOUSLY YAMAMOTO YUMI-SAN AND UCHIBE-SAN FROM GUNMA.

I EXPECT TO SEE INOKUMA-SAN, TOO.

AND THEN THERE'S THAT ONE GIRL FROM SAITAMA

DON'T FORGET AYASE-SAN WHO WON TODAY IF SHE KEEPS THE MOMENTUM, SHE WILL BE A NOTABLE CONTENDER, NO DOUBT.

RIGHT. AND I ACTUALLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE HER WIN, YOU KNOW!

.....

SPACING OUT

カルタ

BECAUSE SHE WAS TOO FIRED UP AND ENDED UP COMPLETELY BURNING HERSELF OUT

BUT FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR KARUTA CLUB SHE LOOKS LIKE THIS.

CHI-HAYA-CHAN

WHAT WILL YOUR DECISION ABOUT THE FIELD TRIP BE LIKE ?

THE WIND ...

...IS GROW-ING STRON-GER.

THE WIND OF EXPEC-TATIONS.

AYASE-SAN.

IF YOU WOULD RATHER PARTICIPATE IN THE QUEEN QUALIFIER,

WE COULD DISCUSS IT AND FIND A WAY.

IN CASES INVOLVING IMPORTANT CHAMPION-SHIP MATCHES,

PERMISSION OF ABSENCE CAN BE GRANTED.

AND I KNOW THAT THE QUEEN TOURNAMENT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT COMPETITION FOR YOU, ISN'T IT?

CHIHAYA!

LET'S PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER AND FIND A WAY FOR YOU TO TAKE PART IN IT.

I WILL HELP YOU.

HUH?

I'M REALLY TOO LATE FOR EVERYTHING?!

YOU'VE ALREADY TAKEN OFF YOUR HAKAMA?!

AND HERE I BOUGHT A CAMERA SPECIALLY FOR THIS OCCASION EVEN THOUGH I WAS IN A HURRY!

instant camera

SORRY I CAME SO LATE!

CHIHA-YA!

DID YOU GIVE IT YOUR ALL?

DID YOU HAVE FUN?

YOU ASKED TO COME URGENTLY, SO I RUSHED TO YOU AS FAST AS I COULD BUT WAS STILL LATE, IT APPEARS.

SO, HOW DID YOU DO IN THE COMPE-TITION?

AH!

BUT I COULD HAVE TAKEN PICTURES WITH MY PHONE, COULD I NOT?!

OH, BUT THE SHUTTER IN MY PHONE'S CAMERA IS SO SLOW...

I...

MOM...

M-

W-

...WANT TO GO TO THE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP!

HUH?

EH?

I DON'T SEE WHY NOT GO, THEN .?

AND...

...I WANT TO BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER!

SO I NEED TO GO TO THE FIELD TRIP~~~!

BUT I ALSO WANT TO BECOME THE QUEEN~~~~!

AND AT THE SAME TIME I WANT TO BE

LIKE MIYAUCHI-SENSEI AND SAKURAZAWA-SENSEI,

A TEACHER AND A CLUB ADVISOR~~~~~~~~~~~!

TODAY, IN THIS HAKAMA, I...

B- BUT...

ME AND TAICHI DID OUR BEST ~~~~~!

I WANTED TO WIN ~~~~!

AND I ACTUALLY WON A TOURNA-MENT FOR THE FIRST TIME~~~!

I WAS ABLE TO GIVE IT MY ALL,

MY EVERY-THING.

I WAS ABLE TO PUT ALL MY HEART INTO IT.

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AND I HAD FUN.

TAICHI.

キュッ

EH?

OH.

IS SOME-THING WRONG?

NO.

I'M JUST TIRED ...

CHIHAYA HAS BECOME STRONG.

.....

YEAH I GUESS.

"WHY...

.....

...AM I NOT THE ONE FIGHTING CHIHAYA RIGHT NOW?"

TAICHI.

YOU MIGHT LAUGH AT ME WHEN YOU HEAR WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY, BUT...

FOR SOME REASON,

I ALWAYS THOUGHT...

...THAT CHIHAYA

BECAUSE EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS,

YOU WERE THE ONE ALWAYS BY HER SIDE.

BELONGED TO YOU.

BELONGS TO THE BOTH OF US

.....

TO ME CHIHA-YA

TO ME...

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SAYING.

STUPID?

...ARE NEAR HER

BOTH ME AND AYATA

THERE'S NO BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE CHIHAYA

BELONGS TO ANYONE.

OCTOBER, 20

THE 2ND YEAR STUDENTS OF MIZUSAWA HIGH SCHOOL WERE ABOUT TO SET OUT ON THEIR FIRST DAY OF THE SCHOOL FIELD TRIP

FROM TOKYO TO KYOTO BY BULLET TRAIN.

CHI-CHAN,

ARE YOU REALLY OK WITH NOT TAKING PART IN THE QUEEN TOURNA-MENT...?

DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE MISSING OUT?

I'LL DO MY BEST THEN!

THE QUEEN QUALIFIER WILL BE HELD NEXT YEAR AGAIN!

AND THIS YEAR.

EH?

BUT NEXT YEAR WE HAVE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS...

I WANT TO MAKE LOTS OF GREAT MEMORIES WITH YOU, MICHIRU-CHAN!

YEAR 2, CLASS 9

BUT ANYWAY, TODAY WE ABSOLUTELY NEED TO VISIT KIYOMIZU TEMPLE!

AND TOMORROW, AFTER THE OBLIGATORY VISIT TO THE GOLDEN PAVILION, WE'LL GO TO SHIGUREDEN ONCE WE'RE ALLOWED THE TIME TO EXPLORE ON OUR OWN.

GUYS, YOU'RE GIVING ME TOO MUCH CREDIT WAY BEFORE OUR FREE ACTIVITY TIME EVEN STARTED!

HORIKAWA'S OUR CLASS' HELMSMAN!

YEAR 2, CLASS 5

IN ORDER TO EXPERIENCE BEING IN KYOTO IN FULL, SHE FELT IT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO READ THROUGH WAY TOO MANY GUIDES TO THE CITY'S DRAPER STORES, MUSEUMS, TEMPLES AND SHRINES...

ZZZZZZ

SHE SAID SHE COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL LAST NIGHT.

WHAT HAPPENED TO OOE-SAN?

YEAR 2, CLASS 1

.....

WHAT DID YOU BRING WITH YOU?

OKAY!

.....

EH?

YOU EVEN BROUGHT DIRTY MAGS WITH YOU, HUH?

OH, GIMME THAT.

AYASE.

AYASE!

GRAB

OH, IT'S YOU, TSUKUE -KUN!

THE CLASS 1 CAR IS QUITE A FAR WAYS OFF FROM OURS! NICE OF YOU TO COME DESPITE THAT!

AYA- SE.

WANT SOME CANDY?

EH?

ARE YOU AWARE

THAT MASHIMA IS SKIPPING THE TRIP?

APPARENTLY, HE CALLED THE SENSEI AND SAID HE HAD A FEVER.

EH?!

TAICHI CAUCHT A COLD?!

HOW COULD HE BE SO CARELESS WHEN HE KNEW WE HAD THE FIELD TRIP COMING?!

NO, I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S NOT ---

I REALLY DON'T THINK FEVER HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT...

!...

IS HIS FEVER THAT BAD?!

I'LL TRY CALLING HIM...

NO, WAIT, AYASE.

EH?

EH...?

EH...?!

DON'T TELL ME...

TAICHI ACTUALLY ...?!